

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State grassroots organizations which have admirably dedicated themselves to meeting specialized needs in local communities and neighborhoods; and

Whereas, the Foster Grandparent Program of Johnson, Lafayette, Ray, and Saline counties provides volunteer opportunities to seniors aged sixty and older who serve as mentors, friends, tutors, and role models for children and youth with special or exceptional needs; and

Whereas, down through the years the Foster Grandparent Program has demonstrated that relationships between children and seniors can be the foundation for improving a child's self-esteem and self-worth, and can provide a positive outlook toward the future for all of those involved; and

Whereas, Foster Grandparent Program volunteers fulfill an invaluable role in public or private non-profit organizations, Head Start programs, schools, developmental centers, hospitals, youth correctional centers, and community-based organizations; and

Whereas, Foster Grandparent Program volunteers serve up to twenty hours each week at an assigned volunteer station where they give much-needed and much-appreciated attention to children who have special or exceptional needs; and

Whereas, the Foster Grandparent Program of Johnson, Lafayette, Ray, and Saline counties utilizes the selfless contributions of seventy active foster grandparents who meet with children and youth at thirty different volunteer stations throughout the region; and

Whereas, on Friday, April 25, 2003, Foster Grandparent Program volunteer participants will gather together at the White Rose Pavilion in Warrensburg to attend the Thirty-first Annual Recognition Banquet as a way to celebrate professionalism and engender camaraderie within the group:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the stellar, ongoing history of service so generously provided by the Foster Grandparent Program to children and youth with special or exceptional needs and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's sincerest congratulations and best wishes for a successful Recognition Banquet at the White Rose Pavilion of Warrensburg, Missouri; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the Foster Grandparent Program serving Johnson, Lafayette, Ray, and Saline counties.

Offered by _____
Representative David Pearce
District No. 121

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 2155, adopted April 24, 2003.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker